[27th August 1955

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, that is a large question and I cannot give a complete answer to that now. Anyhow, if a separate question is put, I shall try to answer it."

Periods of work for Language Pandits in High Schools.

* 373 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state with reference to the answer to starred Legislative Council Question No. 15 answered on 29th December 1953, at what stage the question of reducing the minimum number of periods of work in High School classes insisted on for eligibility to I grade scales of pay in the case of Language Pandits stands?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. Minister for Finance) :—" There is no proposal to reduce the number of periods of work in High school forms for language Pandits other than Hindi Pandits so as to enable them to get pay in the Grade I scale.

" The question was however considered in respect of Hindi Pandits, and deferred as provision has since been made under Part II of the First Language, which will increase the number of periods of study of Hindi."

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" May I know whether the figures were gathered as to the additional amount that would be required if the limit were reduced to 16 periods? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" No, Sir."

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" May I know whether the Government would kindly consider the claims of Tamil and other language Pandits to be placed on a par with those teaching English at least now when there is much pressure from the public to recognise the value of Tamil? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would suggest to the hon. Member to put a separate question."

Introduction of single point sales tax.

* 374 *Q.*—SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government to introduce single point sales tax on certain commodities like yarn, oil, etc., as an experimental measure?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" There is no such proposal at present. The Government propose to hold a conference of officials and non-officials shortly to discuss matters relating to sales tax. The question whether single point tax can be levied on any, and if so, on what articles will also be considered then."